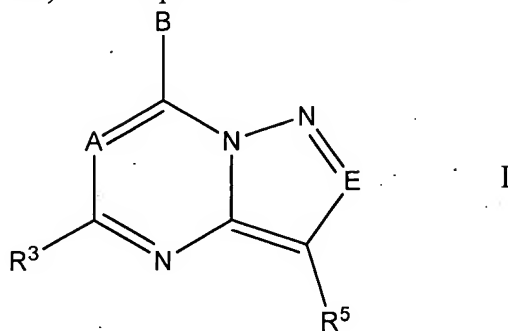


## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Deleted)
2. (Deleted)
3. (Deleted)
4. (Deleted)
5. (Deleted)
6. (Deleted)
7. (Deleted)
8. (Deleted)
9. (Previously amended) A compound of the formula



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

the dashed lines represent optional double bonds;

A is nitrogen or CH, or CCH<sub>3</sub>

B -CR<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup>R<sup>10</sup> -C(=CR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>11</sup>)R<sup>1</sup>, -NHCR<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup>R<sup>10</sup>, -OCR<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup>R<sup>10</sup>, -SCR<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup>R<sup>10</sup>, -CR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>10</sup> NHR<sup>1</sup>, -CR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>10</sup>OR<sup>1</sup>, -CR<sup>2</sup>R<sup>10</sup>SR<sup>1</sup> or -COR<sup>2</sup>;

E is selected from CR<sup>4</sup>, C=O, C=S, sulfur, oxygen, CR<sup>4</sup>R<sup>6</sup> and NR<sup>8</sup>;

G is carbon;

R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, -O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl), -OC(=O)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), -NHCO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -COOH, -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -CONH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>

alkyl), -CON(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), -S(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -SO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -SO<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -SO<sub>2</sub>NH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl) and -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), wherein each of the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl groups in the foregoing R<sup>1</sup> groups may optionally contain one or two double or triple bonds;

R<sup>2</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkyl which may optionally contain from one to three double or triple bonds, aryl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)aryl, wherein said aryl and the aryl moiety of said (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)aryl is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, thienyl, benzothienyl, pyridyl, quinolyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, benzofuranyl, benzothiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, indolyl, pyrrolopyridyl, oxazolyl and benzoxazolyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene)(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl), wherein one or two of the carbon atoms of said cycloalkyl and the 5 to 8 membered cycloalkyl moieties of said (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene)(C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl) may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ<sup>2</sup> wherein Z<sup>2</sup> is selected from hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, benzyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanoyl, and wherein each of the foregoing R<sup>2</sup> groups may optionally be substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from chloro, fluoro, hydroxy and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, or with one substituent selected from bromo, iodo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, -OC(=O)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), -OC(=O)N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), -S(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), amino, -NH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)-CO-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -NHCO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -COOH, -COO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -CONH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -CON(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), -SH, -CN, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -SO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -SO<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -SO<sub>2</sub>NH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl) and -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl);

-NR<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup> or CR<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup>R<sup>10</sup> may form a saturated 3 to 8 membered carbocyclic ring which may optionally contain from one to three double bonds and wherein one or two of the ring carbon atoms of such 5 to 8 membered rings may optionally and independently be replaced by an oxygen or sulfur atom or by NZ<sup>3</sup> wherein Z<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, benzyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkanoyl;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, -O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), chloro, fluoro, bromo, iodo, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkylene)-O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkylene)-OH, or -S(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl);

each R<sup>4</sup> is, independently, hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, hydroxy, cyano, amino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkylene)-OH, CF<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>SCH<sub>3</sub>, nitro, -O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), -S(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -CO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -C(=O)H or -C(=O)O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl);

R<sup>6</sup> is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

R<sup>8</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl;

R<sup>5</sup> is phenyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidyl, pyridazinyl and wherein each of the foregoing R<sup>5</sup> groups is substituted with from one to four substituents R<sup>13</sup> wherein one to three of said substituents may be selected, independently, from fluoro, chloro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl and -O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) and one of said substituents may be selected from bromo, iodo, formyl, OH, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)-OH, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylene)-O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl), -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -NH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), -OCO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)-O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -S(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkylene)-S-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -C(=O)O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -C(=O)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -COOH, -SO<sub>2</sub>NH(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -SO<sub>2</sub>N(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -SO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -S(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl) and -SO<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl), and wherein each of the C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl moieties in the foregoing R<sup>5</sup> groups may optionally have one or two double bonds;

R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, chloro, fluoro, iodo, bromo, hydroxy, -O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -C(=O)(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -C(=O)O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl), -OCF<sub>3</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>OH or -CH<sub>2</sub>O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl);

R<sup>10</sup> is, hydroxy, methoxy or fluoro;

R<sup>11</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of such compounds.

10. (Deleted)
11. (Previously Amended) A compound according to claim 9 wherein E is CH, CCH<sub>3</sub> or CC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>.
12. (Deleted)

13. (Deleted)
14. (Deleted)
15. (Deleted)
16. (Deleted)
17. (Deleted)
18. (Deleted)
19. (Previously Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing a disorder or condition, the treatment or prevention of which can be effected or facilitated by inhibiting CRH binding protein in a mammal, comprising a CRH binding protein inhibiting amount of a compound according to claim 9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
20. (Deleted)
21. (Deleted)
22. (Deleted)
23. (Deleted)